

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein a first test case from the one or more test cases is part of a first test group, the first test group including one or more software testing instructions organized as ~~one or more~~more than two verification levels within the verification hierarchy, and wherein the verification settings that define the one or more desired verification levels for the one or more test cases also define one or more desired verification levels for the first test group.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2, further comprising acts of:  
identifying a portion of the one or more software testing instructions within the first test group that corresponds to the one or more desired verification levels; and  
running a portion of the first test group that corresponds to the one or more desired verification levels.
4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the verification settings define a single desired verification level for the first test case and the first test group.
5. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the verification settings define a desired verification level for the first test case that is different from a desired verification level for the first test group.
6. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein a second test case from the one or more test cases is part of the first test group, and wherein the verification settings define a desired verification level for the second test case different from the desired verification level for the first test group.

7. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein a second test case from the one or more test cases is part of the first test group, and wherein the verification settings define a desired verification level for the second test case that is different from the desired verification level for the first test group.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein verification settings define a desired verification level for the second test case that is different from the desired verification level for the first test case.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein a second test case from the one or more test cases is part of the first test group, and wherein third and fourth test cases from the one or more test cases are part of a second test group, the second test group including one or more software testing instructions organized as ~~one or more~~more than two verification levels within the verification hierarchy, and wherein the verification settings that define the one or more desired verification levels for the one or more test cases also define one or more desired verification levels for the second test group, the method further comprising acts of:

identifying a portion of the one or more software testing instructions within the second test group that corresponds to the one or more desired verification levels; and

running a portion of the second test group that corresponds to the one or more desired verification levels.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the verification settings define different desired verification levels for each of the first test case, the second test case, the third test case, the fourth test case, the first test group and the second test group.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein the first and second test groups are part of a third test group, the third test group including one or more software testing instructions organized as ~~one or more~~more than two verification levels within the verification hierarchy, and wherein the verification settings that define the one or more desired verification levels for the one or more test cases also define one or more desired verification levels for the third test group, the method further comprising acts of:

identifying a portion of the one or more software testing instructions within the third test group that corresponds to the one or more desired verification levels; and

running a portion of the third test group that corresponds to the one or more desired verification levels.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the verification settings define a desired verification level for the third test group different from each of the first test case, the second test case, the third test case, the fourth test case, the first test group and the second test group.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein at least a portion of at least one of the plurality of software testing instructions determines that software information is available and uses the information for troubleshooting the software if it is determined that the software does not function as intended when executed.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the software information available is debug information.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein a portion of the one or more test cases that corresponds to the one or more desired verification levels produces one or more test outputs for verifying the software.

17. (Currently Amended) In a computer system that includes software under test, a method of verifying the software with one or more tunable test cases that are capable of being set to any of a plurality of verification levels, the method comprising steps for:

loading one or more test cases that include a plurality of software testing instructions organized as a plurality of verification levels within a verification hierarchy, wherein at least two more than two verification levels within the verification hierarchy define different amounts of testing for a single test case to perform for determining if the software functions as intended when executed;

receiving verification setting instructions for one or more desired verification levels from within the verification hierarchy for use in testing the software, wherein the received verification setting instructions select the one or more desired verification levels from a group of more than two verification levels that include at least first and second verification levels, wherein selection of the first verification level causes the one or more test cases to be run with instructions during testing and which includes invoking an insert record object to determine if the invocation of the insert record object results in a system crash and while refraining from producing any recorded output, and wherein selection of the second verification level, which is distinguished from the first verification level, causes the one or more test cases to be run with different instructions and to invoke the insert record object and to additionally verify through recorded output that a record corresponding to the insert record object was properly inserted and presented when the one or more test cases corresponding to the second verification level are run, and such that the recorded output which is produced in response to the one or more test cases being run following the selection of the second verification level is refrained from being produced in response to the one or more test cases being run following the selection of the first verification level; and

testing the software at the one or more desired verification levels, which include at least one of the first and second verification levels, by running the one or more test cases that include the plurality of software testing instructions that correspond to the one or more desired verification levels.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein a first test case from the one or more test cases is part of a first test group, the first test group including one or more software testing instructions organized as ~~one or more~~more than two verification levels within the verification hierarchy, and wherein the verification setting instructions for the one or more desired verification levels define a desired verification level for the first test case different from a desired verification level for the first test group, further comprising acts of:

identifying a portion of the one or more software testing instructions within the first test group that corresponds to the one or more desired verification levels; and

running a portion of the first test group that corresponds to the one or more desired verification levels.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein a second test case from the one or more test cases is part of the first test group, and wherein the verification setting instructions define a desired verification level for the second test case that is different from a desired verification level for the first test group.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein verification setting instructions for the desired verification levels define a single verification level for the first and second test cases.

21-22. (Canceled)

23. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 25, wherein the verification settings define a single desired verification level for the first test case and the first test group, and wherein a second test case from the one or more test cases is part of the first test group, and wherein the verification settings define a desired verification level for the second test case different from a desired verification level for the first test group.

24. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 25, wherein a second test case from the one or more test cases is part of the first test group, and wherein third and fourth test cases from the one or more test cases are part of a second test group, the second test group including one or more software testing instructions organized as ~~one or more~~more than two verification levels

within the verification hierarchy, and wherein the verification settings that define the one or more desired verification levels for the one or more test cases also define one or more desired verification levels for the second test group, and wherein the verification settings define different desired verification levels for each of the first test case, the second test case, the third test case, the fourth test case, the first test group and the second test group.

25. (Previously Presented) A computer program product comprising one or more computer readable storage media storing computer executable instructions that, when executed, implement the method recited in claim 17.

26. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 25, wherein a first test case from the one or more test cases is part of a first test group, the first test group including one or more software testing instructions organized as ~~one or more~~ more than two verification levels within the verification hierarchy, and wherein the verification setting instructions for the one or more desired verification levels define one or more desired verification levels for both the first test case and the first test group.

27. (Original) The computer program product of claim 26, further comprising acts of:  
identifying a portion of the one or more software testing instructions within the first test group that corresponds to the one or more desired verification levels; and  
running a portion of the first test group that corresponds to the one or more desired verification levels.

28. (Original) The computer program product of claim 27, wherein the verification setting instructions define a single desired verification level for the first test case and the first test group.

29. (Original) The computer program product of claim 27, wherein the verification setting instructions define a desired verification level for the first test case that is different from a desired verification level for the first test group.

30. (Original) The computer program product of claim 28, wherein a second test case from the one or more test cases is part of the first test group, and wherein the verification setting instructions define a desired verification level for the second test case that is different from the desired verification level for the first test group.

31. (Original) The computer program product of claim 29, wherein a second test case from the one or more test cases is part of the first test group, and wherein the verification setting instructions define a desired verification level for the second test case that is different from the desired verification level for the first test group.

32. (Original) The computer program product of claim 31, wherein verification setting instructions define a desired verification level for the second test case that is different from the desired verification level for the first test case.

33. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 27, wherein a second test case from the one or more test cases is part of the first test group, and wherein third and fourth test cases from the one or more test cases are part of a second test group, the second test group including one or more software testing instructions organized as ~~one or more~~more than two verification levels within the verification hierarchy, and wherein the verification setting instructions that define the one or more desired verification levels for the one or more test cases also define one or more desired verification levels for the second test group, the method further comprising acts of:

identifying a portion of the one or more software testing instructions within the second test group that corresponds to the one or more desired verification levels; and

running a portion of the second test group that corresponds to the one or more desired verification levels.

34. (Original) The computer program product of claim 33, wherein the verification setting instructions define different desired verification levels for each of the first test case, the second test case, the third test case, the fourth test case, the first test group and the second test group.

35. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 34, wherein the first and second test groups are part of a third test group, the third test group including one or more software testing instructions organized as ~~one or more~~more than two verification levels within the verification hierarchy, and wherein the verification setting instructions that define the one or more desired verification levels for the one or more test cases also define one or more desired verification levels for the third test group, the method further comprising acts of:

identifying a portion of the one or more software testing instructions within the third test group that corresponds to the one or more desired verification levels; and

running a portion of the third test group that corresponds to the one or more desired verification levels.

36. (Original) The computer program product of claim 35, wherein the verification setting instructions define a desired verification level for the third test group that is different from the each of the first test case, the second test case, the third test case, the fourth test case, the first test group and the second test group.

37. (Original) The computer program product of claim 25, wherein at least a portion of at least one of the plurality of software instructions determines that software information is available and uses the information for troubleshooting the software when it is determined that the software does not function as intended when executed.

38. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 37, wherein the software information available is debug information.

39. (Original) The computer program product of claim 25, wherein the portion of the plurality of software testing instructions that corresponds to the one or more desired verification levels does not produce any testing output.

40. (Original) The computer program product of claim 25, wherein the portion of the plurality of software testing instructions that corresponds to the one or more desired verification levels produces one or more test outputs used to verify the software functions as intended.

41. (Canceled)

42. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 17, wherein selection of a third verification level causes verification of the record being inserted in response to an insert record

object corresponding to the third verification level as well as verification that the record was only inserted a single time and wherein testing of the software includes running the third verification level.

43. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 17, wherein selection of a third verification level causes verification of the record being inserted in response to an insert record object corresponding to the third verification level as well as verification that the record was inserted without overwriting another record and wherein testing of the software includes running the third verification level.

44. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 17, wherein the one or more test cases includes a plurality of test cases and wherein the method further includes, upon detecting an adverse or unexpected result from testing the software, isolating the plurality of test cases within the test group and running each of the isolated test cases individually.

45. (New) In a computer system that includes software under test, a method of verifying the software using a single test case that can be configured to provide more than two levels of verification, the method comprising:

loading the test case into memory of the computer system, the test case including testing instructions organized to provide more than two levels of verification that can be performed when the test case is executed;

receiving verification settings that select one of the more than two levels of verification for the test case to perform when executed; and

executing the test case along with the software such that verification of the software is performed at the level specified by the received verification settings.

46. (New) In a computer system that includes a database that is to be tested, a method of testing the database using a single test case that tests an insert record object that inserts records in the database and that can be configured to provide multiple levels of verification, the method comprising:

executing the database application on the computer system;

loading the test case into memory of the computer system, the test case including testing instructions organized to provide multiple levels of verification that can be performed when the test case is executed, the level of verification to be performed being selectable by a user of the computer system, and wherein the verification levels comprise:

a first verification level that causes the test case to produce no output when executed;

a second verification level that causes the test case to produce an output that is analyzed to determine whether the insert record object functioned correctly;

a third verification level that causes the test case to check the database to verify that the insert record object did not insert a record twice or over-write another record unintentionally;  
and

a fourth verification level that causes the test case to verify that memory and disk space was used as expected and that event log messages were as expected;

receiving verification settings that select one of the multiple levels of verification for the test case to perform when executed; and

executing the test case such that verification of the database is performed at the level specified by the received verification settings.